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inferred from other facts that the government established in Pandemonium over Hell was intentionally identified by the Protestant poet with the sway over the world by imperial and papal Rome.

Though aware of the futility of explaining where the questioner does not wish to understand, I add a few words to my note on *Par. Lost* ii, 880, which Professor Browne quotes:—

"*Recoil*. After long detention in the 'iron furnace' of Egypt the children of Israel were thrust out (*Exod.* xi. 1). The recoil of Hell-gates is like the sudden urgency of the Egyptians after their sullen resistance."

Hell is spoken of as "a furnace of fire" (*Matt.* xiii. 42); Egypt as an "iron furnace" (*Deut.* iv. 20). Other notes show that in this particular part of the poem Egypt furnishes a number of the features of Milton's Hell. The poem itself contains plainer references that no one will dispute. The justification for this Milton seems to have derived from *Rev.* xi. 8. The recoil of Hell-gates from the lock allegorically expresses the temper of the Egyptians upon which depended the escape of the Israelites from the iron furnace of their oppression. These hints will be sufficient to those who can interpret allegory.

JOHN A. HIMES.

Pennsylvania College.

ASTATUE OF THE YOUTHFUL GOETHE AT STRASSBURG.

TO THE EDITORS OF MOD. LANG. NOTES,

SIRS:—The approaching celebration of Goethe's one hundred and fiftieth birthday has given rise to a plan which, conceived by members of the faculty of Strassburg University, should obtain the support and coöperation of all the friends of German literature. It was in Strassburg that Goethe first became fully himself. Here the greatness of mediæval art first dawned upon him. Here the love for Friederike brought out for the first time his lyric genius. Here he planned "*Götz von Berlichingen*" and "*Faust*." It is eminently fitting, then, that in Strassburg his memory should be honored by a statue representing him in the first glow and joyfulness of youth.

A large number of distinguished scholars,

under the lead of the Grand Duke of Weimar, have taken the matter in hand, and it is hoped that by August 28, 1899, a sum will have been brought together sufficient to insure a worthy execution of this worthy plan. American admirers of Goethe who wish to take part in it are asked to send their contributions either to Prof. J. P. Hatfield, Evanston, Ill., or to Prof. Horatio S. White, Ithaca, N. Y., or to the undersigned.

KUNO FRANCKE.

Harvard University.

BRIEF MENTION.

The next annual meeting of the Modern Language Association of America will be held at the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Va., December 27, 28, 29, 1898. The Central Division of the Association will meet at the same time at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Neb. The first session of the meeting at the University of Virginia will be held on Tuesday December 27, at 8 o'clock p. m., to hear President Fortier's address on "Social and historical forces in French Literature." Among the papers which will be read are "*La Vie de Ste. Catharine d'Alexandrie* as contained in the Paris MS. *La Clayette*." By H. A. Todd.—"Luis de León, the Spanish poet, humanist, and mystic." By J. D. M. Ford.—"Lemercier and the Three Unities." By John R. Ellinger, Jr.—"The influence of the return of Spring on the earliest French lyric poetry." By W. S. Symington, Jr.—"The origin and meaning of 'Germani' (*Tac. Germ.* 2)." By A. Gudeman.—"German American ballads." By M. D. Learned.—"The sources of Opitz's *Buch von der deutschen Poeterei*." By T. S. Baker.—"Some tendencies in English contemporary poetry." By C. Weygandt.—"From Franklin to Lowell, a century of New England pronunciation." By C. H. Grandgent.—"Transverse alliteration in Teutonic poetry." By O. F. Emerson.—"The origin of the Runic Alphabet, and the explanation of the peculiar order of the runes." By G. Hempl.—"The International Correspondence." By E. H. Magill.—"Adversative-conjunctive relations." By R. H. Wilson.

An important feature of the meeting will be the final report of the Committee of Twelve, appointed to consider the position of the Modern Languages (German and French) in Secondary Education.

It is expected that all persons attending the meeting will be invited to visit Monticello, the home of Thomas Jefferson, on Wednesday afternoon, December 28.